

# The Press.

## DINNER TO MR. RIVES.

The Madisonian contains a sketch of the proceedings at the dinner given to Mr. Rives at Charlottesville by his neighbors and friends. Mr. Rives addressed the company in his usual felicitous manner, and, in the course of his remarks, he read the following striking extract from the letter of Hugh S. Legare to Pierce Butler, Gov. of South Carolina:

"I give it to you as my deliberate conviction, that the balance of the constitution is subverted; that through the external influences so constantly brought to bear upon it, the federal Legislature is shorn of almost all dignity and authority; that the freedom of thought and action essential to the very idea of a representative assembly, charged with the conduct of a limited government, is assailed on all sides, and has been seriously impaired; and that our republic is beginning to take the shape of an elective monarchy, tempered in some degree by two Houses of Parliament, whose occasional opposition to the will of the Executive, is treated as revolt against the people, in the person of their only true representative."

On the subject of party discipline he read the following from the same letter:

"I speak of what is the inevitable consequence of the discipline of party, as it is so expressly called here, by which all freedom of private judgment is sacrificed to the imaginary will of the majority, and public opinion is shaped, with a view to future elections, as by a few leaders dictating no one knows how, to multitudes of dissenting, dissatisfied, and yet complying followers—the whole body doing what almost every member of it disapproves."

Mr. R. compared the conduct of Mr. Ritchie and the Judges Convention, (in making the support of Mr. Van Buren the sole burden of their song in their appeals to the people) to that of Demetrius, the silvermouth, and his craftsmen, mentioned in the 19th chapter of the Acts, constantly crying out "Great is Diana of the Ephesians," when their craft was in danger of being set at naught by the apostle Paul's denouncing idolatry. He said, let the modern Demetriuses and their political craftsmen, if they please to do so, repeat their cry of "GREAT IS DIANA OF THE EPHESIANS," but why should the people who have no craft to be benefited by doing so, who have no interest but the general good and prosperity of the country, who should they be called on to imitate the senseless folly of the Ephesians, in echoing this clamor. Let the President abjure the errors of his ways, conform his conduct to the opinions of the people, and then and not till then can he expect the support of the people. [Great applause.]

The great issue now is, is the President the servant or the master of people? Is the President the sovereign, or are the people the sovereign of the country? Is the President to conform his conduct to the opinions of the people, or are the people to be made by party discipline to conform their conduct to the opinions of the President? He said, the Judges Convention were much puzzled to give a new name to their party—they had at last christened it the "Democratic Republican State Rights Party." These changes, and especially lengthenings of party names, were evidences of degeneracy and false combinations. Whenever a member was taken into the firm, the style of the firm was lengthened, while its real strength and solid capital of truth and principle were diminished. The original true and orthodox name of the party, in its purest days, were simply Republican; but the renegade Federalists were taken in, as they had been recently, the party managers tacked on Democratic, as it was notorious that the most ultra and over-zealous Democrats, in profession, at least, were always the proclayted Federalists; and to take in the Nullifiers, they had superseded the name of State Rights. During all this time, their old and true friends, the real Republicans, were falling off, in consequence of their heterogeneous combinations; or, in other words, as the tail of the party lengthened, its body shortened—[applause]—or, to use an illustration still more familiar to his brother farmers, his party was all running to vine, [cheers] the worst of all tendencies as they well knew in a root crop. Mr. Rives said he would assist the gentlemen in christening their party, by reminding them of Mr. Jefferson's classification of parties which was particularly applicable to the great issue now before the country. Mr. Jefferson, when parties first arose in the country, habitually classified them into Republicans and Monocrats; the former going for the will of the people, the latter for that of the President. This was the ground on which parties were unhappily forming under the awful and alarming progress which the system of party discipline, openly proclaimed and practised, is now making in the country. He then concluded by offering the following toast:

"Republicans and monocrats," the distinctive designation of American parties by Mr. Jefferson. The former recognizing the supremacy of the popular, the latter that of the Executive, will. The time has come when every free man of America must declare, by his conduct, to which of these parties he belongs.

## THE N. YORK DEFALCATIONS.

It is unlucky that the Report of the Committee appointed to investigate the causes of the great defalcation at New York, in which Messrs. Swartwout and Price were the principal actors, is a document of such great length, that its bulk will effectually prevent it from being read, except by a very small number of persons. In this respect the minority Report from the same Committee has a decided advantage, as its smaller bulk will enable that apology for the administration to come into the hands of many who never will see the charges and the evidence which it attempts to rebut.

The investigation of the committee, and the evidence embodied into their report, clearly establish that the primary cause of the losses which the United States have suffered through the defalcations of Swartwout and Price, is to be found in the totally irresponsible character of those two persons,

and their total destitution of trustworthiness in pecuniary matters,—facts which were perfectly notorious at the time of their appointment to office.

Swartwout obtained his appointment through the personal friendship of Gen. Jackson, and, contrary as it is said, to the remonstrances of some of his supporters, who knew his character and who did not esteem him fit to be trusted. Gen. Jackson, however, who always placed his own private humor far above any other considerations, chose to take the responsibility, and to bestow this appointment upon this ancient friend and confederate, with whom he had formerly been a joint actor in the conspiracy of Aaron Burr. When Mr. Van Buren came in power, having pledged himself to walk generally in the footsteps, he saw fit still to continue in office a man of whose utter want of trustworthiness he was fully aware, and against whose original appointment he had himself protested.

With regard to Mr. Price, his character for fidelity in the performance of his pecuniary obligations, was inferior, if possible, even to that of Mr. Swartwout. It appeared from the testimony before the Investigating Committee, that for the last twenty years the general opinion has been, that he was utterly unworthy of any pecuniary credit. But Mr. Price was a busy partisan politician of considerable influence with the lowest order of the adherents of the administration; and this was esteemed a sufficient reason for giving him the office of District Attorney.

The two offices of the Collector of the port of New York and Attorney for the Southern District of New York, in a pecuniary point of view, are the two most responsible offices in the gift of the President; yet these two officers, responsible as they were, under the existing tory administration, came into the hands of two men as notorious for total lack of regard for their pecuniary obligations, as any two men whom it was possible to find. That under these circumstances the treasury of the United States should suffer from the such agents is not remarkable.

Such, however, was the system of checks existing under the old system, by which the custom house bonds were deposited in bank, and paid at bank, that no opportunity could have occurred for very extensive frauds upon the government, upon the part of these officers. It was only in consequence of the subversive system, practically introduced at the time of the suspension of specie payments, that Mr. Swartwout was enabled to perulate to such a vast amount, upon the public funds.

The secretary of the treasury, it is true, assisted by his subordinate officers, has attempted to show that Mr. Swartwout's defalcations commenced shortly after his appointment, and went on increasing during the whole term. But the report of the committee proves very clearly, that down to the suspension of specie payments, the quarterly accounts rendered by Mr. Swartwout to the treasury department were perfectly correct; that is, that all the moneys which were received by him were regularly stated and accounted for in his quarterly returns; and that so much of the money thus accounted for, as was not paid by him into the treasury, was retained in his hands, with the knowledge and the acquiescence of the Secretary of the treasury. It was only after the suspension of specie payments that he began to render false and fraudulent accounts, returning a large amount of bonds as unpaid, which had in fact been paid, and the proceeds appropriated to his own use. Out of the \$1,200,000 in which Swartwout is now indebted to the public, more than \$900,000 is of this description. If the secretary of the treasury had pursued at New York the system of special deposits, which he did in some less important instance, he would have preserved the great advantages of a check upon the proceedings of the collector; nor would it have been possible for any bonds to have been paid, without that fact being known to the treasury.

It appears further, that while we have had men of the character of Swartwout and Price, appointed to offices of great pecuniary responsibility, and while by discontinuing the use of banks in the collection of public revenue, great and new opportunities for defrauding the public have been afforded, at the very same time, many of the checks and guards established by the original arrangements of the treasury department, have been suffered to fall into disuse, and have been discontinued.

The naval officers of the several ports were originally appointed, principally to act as checks upon collectors, whose books and accounts they were bound to examine, and to report the result of their examination to the treasury department. At New York, and probably elsewhere, this duty of late years has been wholly disregarded.

Several of the accounts kept at the Treasury department, as a means of furnishing materials for an investigation, at any time, into the accounts of collectors, have lately been discontinued; and so little had this important matter been attended to, that the secretary of the treasury seems in some cases not to have been aware of their former existence, and still less of their utility. This is the consequence of converting the mere heads of departments into mere partisan politicians. With all their time devoted to the affairs of the party, how can it be expected that they can ever become acquainted with, or can ever properly attend to the duties of their stations?—*Post. Atlas.*

Wool.—We are glad to perceive symptoms of a ready market for this article, the approaching wool season, and this, too, at good prices—as high, at least as 50 or 55 cents for good merino. The stagnation which rested upon the wool-growing interest the few past years is passing off like a morning cloud. When the business of the country was deranged by the intermeddling of the late and present Administration with the monetary affairs of the people, and by holding over the heads of the manufacturers that engine of despotism—the Sub-Treasury scheme—and threatening to incorporate it upon our institutions "in spite of the lamentations of the people," no prudent man dared to risk his capital in extensive trade, and hence wool remained in the hands of producers, or was disposed of at a low rate. But now the case is somewhat changed. The people through their Representatives in Congress have once, twice,

yea, thrice, defeated this scheme, and the prospect of a strong majority in the next Congress adverse to it, gives courage to the manufacturer to enlarge his operations in the wool trade, and thus creating an active market for it. Calhoun, a man of sagacity, understood what would be the effect of the Sub Treasury Bill, should it become a law, when he declared as a reason why the South ought to support it, "that it would break down the manufacturers of the North." The office holders still press this scheme. But as the people have so often conquered them, their courage and continued vigilance, will enable them to meet it again, and vote it down, while they vote business up—vote a good price upon wool by voting the Sub Treasury and the enemies of Northern manufacturers down.—*Caledonian.*

## THE MORMON BIBLE.

The Boston Recorder of last week contains the following singular development of the origin and history of the Mormon Bible. It accounts most satisfactorily for the existence of the book, a fact which heretofore it has been difficult to explain. It was difficult to imagine how a work containing so many indications of being the production of a cultivated mind, should be connected with a knavery so impudent, and a superstition so gross as that which must have characterized the founders of this pretended religious sect. The present narrative, which independently of the attestations annexed, appears to be by no means improbable, was procured from the writer by the Rev. Mr. Stow of Holliston, who remarks that he has "had occasion to come in contact with Mormonism in its grossest forms." It was communicated by him for publication in the Recorder.

Origin of the "Book of Mormon," or "Golden Bible."

As this book has excited much attention and has been put by a certain new sect, in the place of the sacred scriptures, I deem it a duty which I owe to the public, to state what I know touching its origin.—That it claims to a divine origin are wholly unfounded, needs no proof to a mind unperverted by the grossest delusions. That any sane person should rank it higher than any other merely human composition, is a matter of the greatest astonishment; yet it is received as divine by some who dwell in enlightened New England, and even by those who have sustained the character of devoted Christians. Learning recently that Mormonism has found its way into a church in Massachusetts, and has impregnated some of its members with its gross delusions, so that excommunication has become necessary, I am determined to delay no longer doing what I can to strip the mask from this monster of sin and to lay open this pit of abominations.

Rev. Solomon Spaulding, to whom I was united in marriage in early life, was a graduate of Dartmouth College, and was distinguished for a lively imagination and a great fondness for history. At the time of our marriage, he resided in Cherry Valley, N. Y. From this place we removed to New Salem, Ashtabula County, Ohio; sometimes called Conesus, as it is situated upon Conesus Creek. Shortly after our removal to this place, his health sunk, and he was laid aside from active labors. In the town of New Salem, there are numerous mounds, and forts, supposed by many to be the dilapidated dwellings and fortifications of a race now extinct. These ancient relics arrest the attention of the new settlers and become objects of research for the curious. Numerous implements were found and other articles evincing great skill in the arts. Mr. Spaulding being an educated man and passionately fond of history, took a lively interest in these developments of antiquity; and in order to beguile the hours of retirement and furnish employment for his lively imagination, he conceived the idea of giving an historical sketch of this long lost race. Their extreme antiquity of course would lead him to write in the most ancient style, and as the Old Testament is the most ancient book in the world, he imitated its style as nearly as possible. His sole object in writing this historical romance was to amuse himself and his neighbors. This was about the year 1812. Hull's surrender at Detroit, occurred near the same time, and I recollect the date well from that circumstance. As he progressed in his narrative, the neighbors would come in from time to time to hear portions read, and a great interest in the work was excited among them. It claimed to have been written by one of the lost nation, and to have been recovered from the earth, and assumed the title of "Manuscript Found." The neighbors would often inquire how Mr. S. progressed in deciphering "the manuscript," and when he had a sufficient portion prepared he would inform them, and they would assemble to hear it read. He was enabled from his acquaintance with the classics and ancient history, to introduce many singular names, which were particularly noticed by the people and could be easily recognized by them. Mr. Solomon Spaulding had a brother, Mr. John Spaulding residing in the place at the time, who was perfectly familiar with this work and repeatedly heard the whole of it read.

From New Salem we removed to Pittsburgh, Pa. Here Mr. S. found an acquaintance and friend, in the person of Mr. Patterson, an editor of a newspaper. He exhibited his manuscript to Mr. P. who was very much pleased with it, and borrowed it for perusal. He retained it a long time and informed Mr. S. that if he would make out a title page and preface, he would publish it and it might be a source of profit. This Mr. S. refused to do for reasons which I cannot now state. Sidney Rigdon, who has figured so largely in the history of the Mormons, was at this time connected with the printing office of Mr. Patterson, as is well known in that region, and as Rigdon himself has frequently stated. Here he had ample opportunity to become acquainted with Mr. Spaulding's manuscript and copy it if he chose. It was a matter of notoriety and interest to all who were connected with the printing establishment.—At length the manuscript was returned to

its author, and soon after we removed to Amity, Washington county, Pa. where Mr. S. deceased in 1816. The manuscript then fell into my hands and was carefully preserved. It has frequently been examined by my daughter, Mrs. McKenty, of Monson, Mass. with whom I now reside, and by other friends. After the "Book of Mormon" came out a copy of it was taken to New Salem, the place of Mr. Spaulding's former residence and the very place where the "Manuscript Found" was written. A woman preacher appointed a meeting there, and in the meeting read and repeated copious extracts from the "Book of Mormon." The historical part was immediately recognized by all the older inhabitants, as the identical work of Mr. S. in which they had been so deeply interested years before.—Mr. John Spaulding was present, who is an eminently pious man, and recognized perfectly the work of his brother. He was amazed and affected, that it should have been perverted to so wicked a purpose.—His grief found vent in a flood of tears, and he arose on the spot and expressed in the meeting his deep sorrow and regret, that the writings of his sainted brother should be used for a purpose so vile and shocking. The excitement in New Salem became so great, that the inhabitants had a meeting and deputed Dr. Philastus Hurlbut, one of their number to repair to this place and to obtain from me the original manuscript of Mr. Spaulding, for the purpose of comparing it with the Mormon Bible, to satisfy their own minds and to prevent their friends from embracing an error so delusive. This was in the year 1834. Dr. Hurlbut brought with him an introduction and request for the manuscript, signed by Messrs. Henry Lake, Aaron Wright and others, with all whom I was acquainted, as they were my neighbors when I resided in New Salem.

I am sure that nothing could grieve my husband more, were he living, than the use which has been made of his work. The air of antiquity which was thrown about the composition, doubtless suggested the idea of converting it to purposes of delusion. Thus an historical romance, with the addition of a few pious expressions and extracts from the sacred Scriptures, has been construed into a new Bible and palmed off upon a company of poor deluded fanatics, as divine. I have given the previous brief narration, that this work of deep deception and wickedness may be searched to the foundation, and its author exposed to the contempt and execration he so justly deserves.

MATILDA DAVISON.  
Rev. Solomon Spaulding was the first husband of the narrator of the above history. Since his decease, she has been married to a second husband by the name of Davison. She is now residing in this place; is a woman of irreproachable character and an humble Christian, and her testimony is worthy of implicit confidence.

A. Ely, D. D. Pastor Cong. Church in Monson.

D. R. Austin, Principal of Monson Academy.

Monson, Mass. April 1st, 1839.

\*One of the leaders and founders of the sect.

From the Baltimore Chronicle, April 23.

General SAMUEL SMITH—a Revolutionary officer—a veteran statesman—an accomplished merchant—a public spirited citizen—a man whose name is interwoven with the history of our city, our State, and the United States—died at his residence in Baltimore yesterday afternoon, in the 67th year of his age. He was, we believe, a native of Lancaster county, Pennsylvania, but had resided 79 years in Baltimore.—Leaving to those who have a more intimate acquaintance with his personal history than we have enjoyed, the execution of the task of writing his memoirs, it is sufficient for us to say, that he was, in his day and generation, a patriot, in the widest meaning of that word. In the war of the Revolution he fought for the liberty of his country, and, in the celebrated defence of Mud Fort, immortalized his name as a brave and skilful soldier. In peace he was ever the object of the confidence and regard of his fellow countrymen.

We have heard that Gen. SMITH leaves behind him a mass of papers which are calculated to shed much light upon the political incidents in which he bore so distinguished a part. We trust that they will be arranged by a competent hand, and that along with them will be published a memoir of his eventful and useful life. We were, we believe, the last of the field-officers of the Revolutionary Army.

Although Gen. SMITH had reached a very great age, his death was sudden and unexpected. He had been riding in his carriage after dinner, and upon returning to his house, laid himself down upon a sofa to repose. The servant in attendance left him for a few minutes, and on returning found him dead.

Of no dismember, of no blast he died,  
But fell like autumn fruit that mellowed long.

## DEATH OF ZERAH COLBURN.

I am surprised to learn that no notice has been forwarded to our papers, and through them to the public, of the death of Mr. Colburn, so extensively known in childhood and youth as the "Wonderful Mathematician," and since as a talented and interesting preacher. As a personal friend of the deceased, I feel it my duty to furnish this brief and imperfect sketch for publication, hoping some one better qualified will soon give a more extended notice.

Zerah Colburn was a native of Cabot, in this state, born April 1st, 1804. His singular gift began to attract public attention when he was in his sixth year, at which time he was taken to Danville, Montpelier and Burlington, where large numbers had an opportunity to witness the readiness and correctness with which a perfectly uneducated child could give answers to questions that required the long and careful attention of a well instructed mathematician. Attended by his father, he afterwards travelled extensively through this country and Europe. Mr. C. has published a very interesting memoir, in which he relates, in his own peculiarly interesting style, incidents of his eventful life.

He returned from London to America, after an absence of twelve years. In 1825 he made a profession of religion, and soon after became an itinerant minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church. A few years

since he was elected to a professorship in the Norwich University, which station he filled, I believe, with credit to himself, to his death, which took place at Norwich, March 2d, 1839. From his sister, resident in our village, I learn his last moments were marked with great peace and resignation, and his hopes of eternal life were unclouded.

E. SMITH.

Montpelier, April 16, 1839.

SCULINE EFFECTS OF LIGHTNING.—Wednesday last was a real summer day, and just at eve there was a heavy and refreshing shower, accompanied with one or two, among other, tremendous claps of thunder, one of which seemed to convulse the whole face of nature's earth around us; and the buildings trembled and shook as though there was a volcanic eruption near by. On examination the next day where one of the explosions was supposed to have taken place, about 100 rods south of Mill Village, it was found that one of the largest and loftiest pines, in a forest, among a large number, had been struck. The fluid struck the top of the tree and descended in a winding course to within about 20 feet of the ground, where it was completely severed, and the upper part fell to the ground in as perfect and perpendicular position as it stood in the first place, and penetrated so far into the ground as to give it the appearance of firmness enough to withstand a heavy gale. The part standing is probably near one hundred feet high. The stump was rent into many pieces and strewn in every direction, some to the distance of near 40 rods, others perhaps 20 feet long with parts of the roots, and of immense weight, several rods. The diameter of the tree where it was severed was near 3 feet, and near the ground probably full four feet. Most of the roots were torn up with the stump, and were it not for a few splinters standing, one would hardly have believed that a tree grew there. The spectacle is a sublime one, well worth a short excursion to see.—*Rutland Herald.*

A SERIOUS AFFRAY.—We regret to learn that a serious affray took place in Castleton, on Friday night, which it is feared will result in the death of one individual and consequently, probably, if not in an ignominious end of another, his utter ruin by the conviction of a crime which will doom him to the walls of a prison.

We shall not now attempt to give only a brief and perhaps imperfect account of the affair, as we had it mostly verbally from a person present at the court of inquiry. The individuals concerned in the affray are Francis Hoy, an Irishman, and Philo Tomlinson, both of Castleton—near neighbors, living about two miles from the village.

There had been a lawsuit between Hoy and one Gardner, for an assault upon his said Hoy's dwelling house, formerly kept as a tavern, and now a place of private entertainment and rendezvous, as we are told for those who, unhappily, are fond of revelry and rows. In the trial at the late term of our County Court, alluded to, Tomlinson was called on as a witness by the plaintiffs counsel, supposing he knew all about the riot and assault, but Tomlinson either knew little about the case, or refused to reveal. Hoy, however, obtained a verdict of rising \$300 damages. In the course of the trial it was discovered that there were strong feelings of prejudice against Hoy, and there had been a good deal of excitement about the affair in the neighborhood, where the parties lived, and which still continues.

On Friday last in the afternoon Tomlinson was at Hoy's, and Hoy charged him with perjury, and said he had perjured himself at the above trial—said he should sue him, and should spend all his property to obtain satisfaction, or revenge. At the same time, said we won't quarrel; we will be good friends, and if you will go out doors, or go out back in the yard, we will settle the matter now in a friendly way! However after some further altercation, and after an assent to this mode of settling, on the part of Tomlinson—he left the house of Hoy. In the evening he came again and the altercation was renewed. There were several Irishmen in the house. Hoy again challenged Tomlinson to go out back of the barn and settle the matter. Tomlinson said he would go. They went out together, and no one with them. After being absent some minutes, it was proposed to go out and see that they did not hurt each other, as was remarked; two or three went out, and when the combatants were first discovered, they were some rod or two apart coming in a direction to meet as they approached towards the house, and when they came in contact Hoy gave Tomlinson a blow and knocked him down, and on rising he knocked him down again, and after rising a second or third time. Tomlinson, it was testified by one witness, was seen to thrust his arm towards Hoy, but could not tell whether he reached him, or whether he had any weapon in his hands, nor did it appear at any time that Tomlinson had a knife. After the foregoing circumstances had occurred Tomlinson went home without entering the house, and Hoy came in without being aware that he was injured. But soon complained of sickness at the stomach, and discovered that he was wounded in the abdomen. On taking off his pantaloons it was discovered that there was a gash running up and down in the lower extremity of the abdomen, one side, two or three inches long, and two or three inches deep, and that his bowels protruded out. He then laid himself upon a bed, a physician was sent for and the entrails put back and the wound dressed. The slit in the clothes was five or six inches in length, and appeared to have been made with a sharp instrument. Hoy's recovery, it is said is exceedingly doubtful. Tomlinson was arrested on Saturday and put under \$2000 bonds and was brought to the jail in this town Saturday evening, not being able to procure bail.—*Rutland Herald.*

TERRIFIC ACCIDENT ON THE INCLINED PLANE.—The Philadelphia Spirit of the Times gives the following particulars of a Rail Road accident at the Plane: Yesterday morning, after three train of cars had been let down the Plane, immediately after starting the fourth, when it had descended but a few yards, the rope broke short off, and the train descended to the foot with the velocity of lightning. Coming in contact with a train upon the siding, the whole train, eight cars, loaded with flour, were dashed to atoms, and their contents strewn in heaps all over the road. Fortunately, no lives were lost—no person injured. The burthen train which stood upon the siding and received the

shock, had but that moment been placed there, in order to let the West Chester passenger train on, which then remained in waiting with its usual number of passengers, until the switch should be turned back. Upon how small a point does human existence hang. Probably in one minute more, the switch would have closed, and the thunderbolt of destruction, which was thus providentially turned aside, would have spent its fury against the car freighted with a buoyant and laughing crowd of passengers! The thought is indeed most terrific.

FIRE AND INCENDIARISM.—Not less than five attempts were made to fire the city, yesterday afternoon.—one on Duane street, in the rear of this office, and four on or near State street continued—one of which was successful, though less so than might have been anticipated from the scarcity of water there. This last fire originated in a stable, in the rear of High street, belonging to sheriff Archer, and soon communicated to the adjoining stables and three frame buildings on High street—all of which were burned or pulled down. The loss though inconsiderable, falls heavily on the owners and occupants of the latter, who, we understand, lose nearly their all. These fires, and bold attempt in open day, call for prompt vigilance on the part of our civil authorities.—*Albany Argus.*

SUBSTITUTE FOR THE SUN.—The newly invented light of M. Gaudin, on which experiments were recently made at Paris, is an improved modification of the well known invention of Lieut. Drummond. While Drummond pours a stream of oxygen gas through spirals of wire upon unslacked lime, Gaudin makes use of a more ethereal kind of oxygen, which he conducts through essences of turpentine. The Drummond light is fifteen times stronger than that of burning gas; the Gaudin light is, we are assured, by the inventor, as strong as the sun, or thirty thousand times stronger than gas, and of course ten times more than Drummonds. The method by which M. Gaudin proposes to turn the new invention to use is singularly striking. He proposes to erect in the island of Point Neuf, in the middle of the Seine and centre of Paris, a light house five hundred feet high, in which is to be placed a light from a hundred thousand to a million of gas pipes strong, the power to be varied as the nights are light or dark. Paris will thus enjoy a sort of perpetual day, and as soon as the sun of Heaven is set, the sun of Point Neuf will rise.—*Mechanic's Magazine.*

PAINFUL OCCURRENCE.—We understand that on Tuesday last a son of Mr. Gideon M. Jennings of Cornwall, aged 7 years, died in consequence of eating a portion of the root of the Water Hemlock, vulgarly called *Musquash*. The child, in company with some other lads, was crossing a swamp, and supposing the hemlock to be what is called *Sweet Scilla*, dug a couple of roots, and the unfortunate little fellow is said by his comrades to have eaten one and a part of the other, when they repaired to the house. In a short time he was taken with violent distress at the stomach, and his parents administered a potion of tartarized antimony in solution, which soon produced copious vomiting, but without much essential relief. Delirium, spasms, and the most frightful convulsions quickly ensued, and the little sufferer expired in all the excruciating tortures peculiar to the operation of the deadly qualities of the plant, in about three hours from the time of eating the root.—*Middlebury Arg.*

THE WOOL BUSINESS.—We congratulate agriculturists on the present prospect before them, in relation to this great staple of Vermont. The depression in the article for two years past, owing, doubtless, to the general derangement of all business and the currency, it is to be hoped has passed by—and the prospect now is that business of every kind will revive—and the present season will be a good one for enterprise. As evidence of this prospect, we refer to the sale of a large lot of Fleece Wool directly from the grower in this town to the manufacturer last week. It is said to be a first rate lot of washed fleece wool, consisting of about 12,000 pounds. It went for fifty-eight cents. This is certainly a good beginning, and if this springs crop can be sold really at that rate, it is to be hoped our farmers will not hold on for a higher price—that is, we mean from 48 to 55 cents. This will make money plenty and encourage enterprise.—*Rutland Herald.*

## MURDER.

[We are sorry to have to record the particulars of a melancholy affair which occurred in this town, on the afternoon of Saturday last, and which ended in the death of Nathaniel Mason of Potton. From the particulars as they reached us, it appears that one Reynolds, who, as well as the deceased was a Trooper in the Queen's Mounted Rangers, had been drinking in Purdy's Beer Shop, and that some slight disturbance had arisen there, from members of the troop and others, attempting to amuse themselves, at the expense of Reynolds, by playing practical jokes upon him. After some time, Reynolds and the rest came out into the lane in front of the shop where the same game was kept up. A considerable number of persons collected on the spot, and Reynolds drew his sword and waved it over his head in a threatening manner. At last a boy in the troops succeeded in putting a stick into the boot of Reynolds, and on being asked by him, who did it, pointed to the deceased who had been looking on, and was at that moment walking away with his hands in his pockets, when Reynolds immediately fell; and Reynolds at the same time drew his sword from the wound, deliberately wiped it upon his sleeve, saying, "Damn ye, take that!" Mason was carried to his lodgings, and medical aid procured, he lingered in great distress till the next night when he expired. The deceased was a young man, and bore a good character for quiet, and was uniformly orderly behaviour. He is said not to have meddled with Reynolds in the least, except that he made an attempt, a little before his death, to trip him up, but did not so much as touch him. He was buried in this town on the following Monday, with military honors. The Coroner's Jury returned a verdict of *Willful Murder*. Reynolds was immediately lodged in jail to await his trial. He is an old Waterloo man, and known too fond of liquor; he was not however, drunk at the time he committed the deed.—*Sherbrooke Gazette.*